

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 EB-07 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 INT-05 DLOS-09 DODE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4811
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 4380

PASS COMMERCE: NMFS/BLONDIN; NOAA/WALLACE

E.O.: 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, PBOR, EEC, UK, DA
SUBJ: DANISH REACTION TO THE NORTH SEA HERRING BAN

1. THROUGH A MAJORITY DECISION, 8 TO 1, WITH ONLY DENMARK
OPPOSING, THE EC FISHERIES MINISTERS ON JULY 18 VOTED TO
BAN ALL HERRING FISHING IN THE NORTH SEA UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30.
DENMARK, WHICH WILL BE HARDEST HIT BY THE LAW, HAD HOPED
TO SEE A CONTINUATION OF THE PRESENT QUOTA ARRANGEMENT.
IN ANY EVENT, THE DANISH QUOTA OF 15,000 TONS FOR 1977
COULD NOT BE FILLED BECAUSE OF THE UK'S UNILATERAL BAN
ON HERRING FISHING WITHIN HER 200-MILE LIMIT.

2. DANISH FISHERMEN AND FISHING INDUSTRY FEAR THAT THE
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EC DECISION WILL NOT ONLY CREATE IMMEDIATE UNEMPLOYMENT
BUT, IN THE LONG RUN, WILL DESTROY FOR DENMARK ITS
TRADITIONAL MARKET IN HERRING. THE DANISH SHARE OF THAT
MARKET, THEY ARGUE, WILL NOW BE TAKEN OVER BY THE UK
AND IRELAND, WHICH CAN STILL DELIVER HERRING FROM CATCHES
WEST OF SCOTLAND.

3. IN THE PRESS DISCUSSION OF WHETHER OR NOT DENMARK SHOULD HAVE USED ITS VETO, IT WAS REVEALED THAT THERE WAS AGREEMENT AMONG THE EC FISHERIES MINISTERS THAT THE USE OF THE VETO POSSIBILITY SHOULD BE DISPENSED WITH DURING THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS. THE FOLKETING MARKET COMMITTEE NOW MAINTAINS THAT IT NEVER WAS INFORMED OF THE DISPENSION AND DEMANDS AN EXPLANATION BY FISHERIES MINISTER SVEND JACOBSEN.

4. THE HERRING BAN PARTICULARLY HITS SKAGEN AND HIRTSHALS ON JUTLAND'S NORTH COAST WHERE SOME 850 PEOPLE MAY BECOME UNEMPLOYED. ESBJERG, ON JUTLAND'S LOWER EAST COAST, ALSO IS EXPECTED TO BECOME AFFECTED BECAUSE OF ITS APPROXIMATELY 110 VESSELS EQUIPPED FOR NORWAY POUT. THE ECN BAN ALSO EXTENDS FROM SEPTEMBER 1 TO OCTOBER 15 THE BAN ON THE SO-CALLED "NORWAY POUT BOX", AN AREA OFF EAST SCOTLAND. THE HADDOCK STOCK WHICH ENTERS AS BI-CATCH OF NORWAY POUT IS ALSO FACED WITH EXTINCTION. ANOTHER PRESSING ISSUE INVOLVED REGULATIONS FOR BI-CATCHES IN THE INDUSTRIAL FISHERY, THE FLEET OF WHICH COULD BE FACED WITH COMPLETE INACTIVITY IF ITS SMALL TAKE OF HERRING WHICH ENTERS IN THE INDUSTRIAL CATCH IS STOPPED.

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Message Attributes

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